

**SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETY-SECOND SESSION**

**S.F. No. 2476**

(SENATE AUTHORS: UTKE and Housley)

DATE  
04/27/2021

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Introduction and first reading  
Referred to Transportation Finance and Policy

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to transportation; requiring the commissioner of transportation to inspect  
1.3 trains entering the state from Canada; appropriating money; proposing coding for  
1.4 new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 219.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. [219.3831] RAILROADS; INSPECTION.

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Inspection required.** The commissioner of transportation must inspect  
1.8 each car of each train entering Minnesota directly from a foreign country prior to the train  
1.9 being operated in Minnesota. The inspection must include all components of each car that  
1.10 the commissioner determines would affect the safe operation of the train in Minnesota.

1.11 Subd. 2. **Operation prohibited; penalty.** A railroad subject to inspection under  
1.12 subdivision 1 must not operate a train in Minnesota unless (1) the train has first been  
1.13 inspected as required under subdivision 1 and (2) the commissioner has determined that the  
1.14 train may safely be operated in the state. Violation of this section is a misdemeanor.

1.15 Subd. 3. **COVID-19 test.** In addition to the requirements in subdivisions 1 and 2, each  
1.16 member of the train crew working on a train as described in subdivision 1 must provide to  
1.17 the commissioner proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken within the past three days. If  
1.18 any member of the train crew is unable or unwilling to provide proof of a negative test, the  
1.19 train must not be operated in Minnesota. Violation of this section is a misdemeanor.

1.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE; EXPIRATION.** This section is effective the day following final  
1.21 enactment. Subdivision 3 expires the day after all land border crossings between Canada  
1.22 and Minnesota are open to unrestricted travel.

2.1      Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**

2.2           \$..... in fiscal year 2021 and \$..... in fiscal year 2022 are appropriated from the state  
2.3 fiscal recovery fund to the commissioner of transportation for the inspections required by  
2.4 section 1. These are onetime appropriations.

2.5           **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.